WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An active matrix display comprising:

a substrate;

a device layer overlying the substrate, comprising luminescent devices defining pixel units arrayed in a matrix;

a circuitry layer overlying the substrate, comprising pixel circuits for driving the respective luminescent devices, the pixel circuits defining the pixel units; and

contacts, each positioned at the exterior of the emitting area of each pixel unit in the device layer and electrically connecting the corresponding luminescent device with the corresponding pixel circuit.

2. An active matrix display according to Claim 1, wherein the contacts are arrayed in a single dimension for each row or column in the matrix.

3. An active matrix display according to Claim 2, wherein the contacts for the pixel units belonging to two adjacent rows or columns in the matrix are arrayed in a single dimension between the two adjacent rows or columns.

4. An active matrix display according to Claim 1,

wherein the luminescent devices are organic electroluminescence devices, each comprising a first electrode, a second electrode, and an organic layer including an luminescent layer and lying between the first electrode and the second electrode.

5. An active matrix display according to Claim 1, wherein the pixel circuits each comprise a thin-film transistor.

6. An active matrix display comprising:

a substrate;

a device layer overlying the substrate, comprising luminescent devices defining pixel units, each luminescent device comprising a lower electrode, an upper electrode, and an organic layer including a luminescent layer and lying between the upper electrode and the lower electrode; and

a circuitry layer overlying the substrate, comprising pixel circuits for driving the respective luminescent devices, the pixel circuits defining the pixel units;

wherein each lower electrode has a contact electrically connecting the corresponding luminescent device with the corresponding pixel circuit, and the upper electrode does not overlie the contact.

7. An active matrix display according to Claim 6, wherein the pixel circuits each comprise a thin-film transistor.